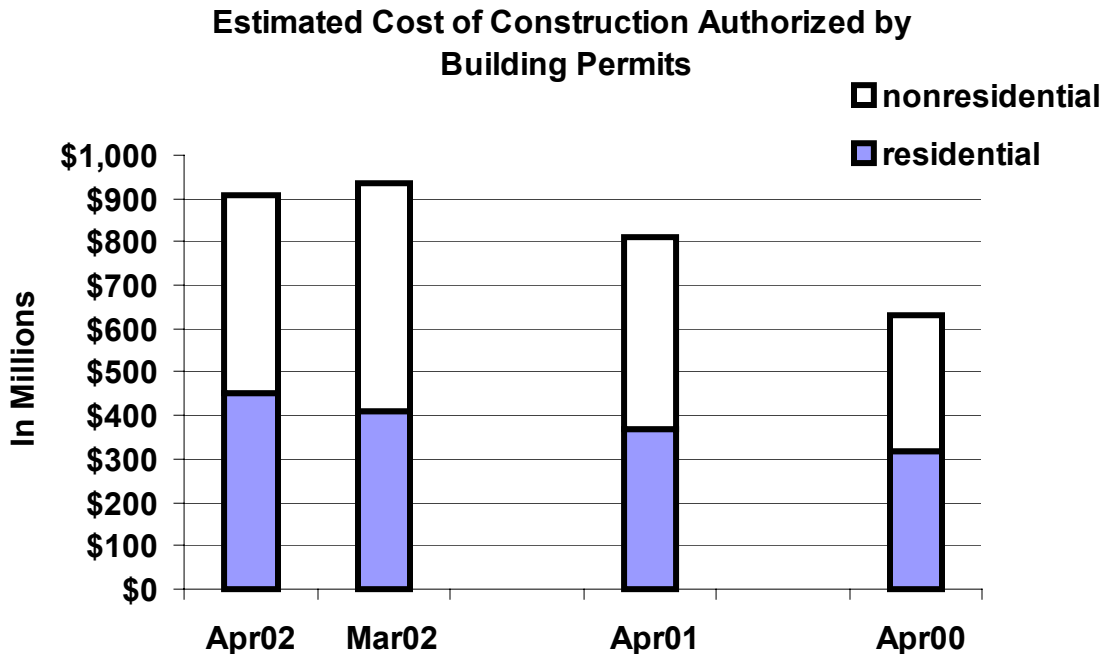


APRIL 2002 HIGHLIGHTS

The construction industry continued to be active in April. The estimated construction cost authorized by building permits was \$906.3 million. Residential structures accounted for \$451.4 million (49.8 percent) and work on nonresidential structures totaled \$455.0 million (50.2 percent); 510 municipalities reported. April activity was 3.3 percent less than last month and 11.5 percent more than this time last year. A total of 2,161 new houses were authorized for construction, a decline of 4 percent compared to last month.



This was a good month for State buildings -- structures owned or built by New Jersey State Government or any of its instrumentalities. A total of \$38.7 million was authorized for these facilities. The biggest projects were a tunnel renovation in Jersey City (\$16 million), a \$6.3-million technical center funded by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, and a \$3.9-million alteration to make a New Jersey Transit station accessible.

Among localities, East Brunswick Township in Middlesex County and Totowa Borough in Passaic County had the most work. East Brunswick reported \$33.3 million for the month. Most of this was from a \$22.5-million addition adjoining two junior high schools and a new mosque with an estimated construction cost of \$5.3 million. Work on a new sewage treatment plant and an upgrade to the existing treatment facility accounted for most of the \$32.7 million in Totowa. Egg Harbor Township in Atlantic County had \$25 million of construction. Nearly \$20 million was for a new elementary school and the expansion of an existing elementary school. The City of Newark in Essex County reported \$19.5 million of construction. A new college dormitory accounted for \$3.9 million. Newark also issued building permits for \$8.7 million of residential construction. The City had 94 new houses in April; this was tops among all municipalities for the month.